



Stronger Together

2015 January 28

Staff Rep Weekly

Please share this important information with all VESTA members

Dates to Remember

Meetings at VESTA office 4pm unless otherwise indicated

January 28

Communications Committee
Aboriginal Ed Committee

February 2

Anti-Poverty Committee

February 3, 4, 5

SURT
Croatian Cultural Ctr

February 4

TTOC Committee



Dan Graves, President
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Heather Allison, 1st VP
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VTF Members Voted YES to Keep Current EHB Plan

On January 21 and 22, VESTA members and their secondary colleagues voted whether to retain their current Extended Health Benefits (EHB) plan, or switch to the BCTF provincial plan. In total, VTF members cast 2288 valid ballots. The outcome was that 79.8% of our membership **voted yes** in favour of retaining our current EHB plan. **Consequently, our current EHB Plan provisions continue.**

In addition, at the VTF General Meeting held on January 14, 2015, a motion was passed establishing a process for a yearly review of the provincial EHB plan by the two Executive Committees (VESTA and VSTA).

Workplace Violent Incident Survey Coming

At the VESTA Executive meeting on January 13 this motion was approved: *THAT the VESTA Executive Committee recommend to members that they voluntarily complete the anonymous VSB all staff online survey regarding violence in the workplace, which does not divulge any individual respondent's personal identity.*

Watch for this online survey which will be distributed to VESTA members early in February.

Peace and Global Ed Conference on Friday, February 20

TURNING THE PAGE – Global Education Today

Location: Burnaby South Secondary School, 5455 Rumble St. Burnaby, BC
Time: 8:30am to 3pm Fee: \$60 for BCTF teachers, \$25 for TTOCs

This Pro-D conference is organized by the BCTF PSA for Peace and Global Education, and includes panel discussion, networking and project planning for participants.

Conference information and registration may be found at: <http://www.PAGEBC.ca/Conference.php>

BC Federation of Labour President Lanzinger Talks About You

Irene Lanzinger, former BCTF president, was elected in a close race in November 2014 as president of the almost 500,000 strong BC Federation of Labour. In this news article, Irene talks about you, the women in the teaching profession, and your instrumental role in the labour movement, as well as her own personal history. It is a fascinating read. Go to this website for more: <http://rabble.ca/news/2015/01/interview-irene-lanzinger>

Upcoming Events

NEW LOCATION SURT – Training for Union Reps on February 3, 4 and 5

SURT will be held at the **Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive** (2 blocks from VESTA office) due to a recent fire at the Maritime Labour Centre. **Registration deadline: Wednesday, January 28.** If you have not already registered, **please note there is space available on Thursday, Feb 5 only** due to the limited number of TOCs the VSB is able to provide.